

# agonizing reappraisal

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Mr. Philip Graham  
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Dear Phil:

Knowing your interest in national policy, Henry Luce asked me to be sure you didn't miss the lead article in the August issue of FORTUNE. Both of us hope very much that you will take time to read "America's New Strategic Situation" by Charles J. V. Murphy. It starts on page 70.

We believe this is the best report that has been published anywhere on what Secretary of State Dulles called the "agonizing reappraisal."

I'm sure you are personally acquainted with the author, Charlie Murphy of FORTUNE's Board of Editors, now resident in Washington and specializing in military-strategic reporting.

As you well know this kind of policy reporting is the most difficult of journalistic assignments. The writer must enjoy the respect and confidence of officials at the highest levels. He must have the experience necessary to sift the truth from political and personal rivalries, and service jealousies. He must be familiar with technological and industrial potentials. And he must always do it within the strict limits of security.

Murphy has earned national reputation for his ability in this difficult field.

One of the many articles he wrote last year was "The Hidden Struggle for the H-Bomb" which recounted Dr. Oppenheimer's efforts to intervene in top political-strategic policy. Recently in his syndicated newspaper column David Lawrence, president and editor of U.S. News & World Report, generously noted:

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"This was first disclosed in an article appearing in FORTUNE magazine in May 1953, which was written by Charles J. V. Murphy, who had just finished a tour of reserve duty as a colonel in the Air Force and as aid to the late General Hoyt S. Vandenberg."

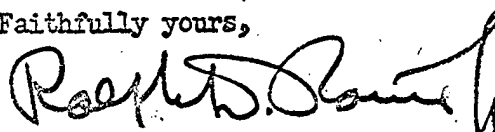
Only last month American Aviation devoted its chief editorial to one of Murphy's articles, saying:

"Charles J. V. Murphy is probably the best-informed writer on military matters in the United States. He is especially knowledgeable about air power. . .

"Thus his article 'Is the H-Bomb Enough?' in the June issue of FORTUNE merits more than passing attention, for from his unique vantage point he has come up with a critical appraisal of U.S. air power which can't be sloughed off easily."

Murphy's latest article in the new August issue is even more important. There are many blunt and painful facts in it. But it gets at the root of the American predicament.

Faithfully yours,



Ralph D. Paine Jr.  
Publisher